

'Saint Elizabeth' Sung as Opera At Metropolitan

By Sylvester Rawling.

"SAINT ELIZABETH" got a first appearance upon the Metropolitan Opera House stage last night. Once upon a time, not so long ago, Kurt Schindler and his Schola Cantorum presented her to us in her original oratorio form. Perhaps she would better have re-

mained there. Mr. Gatti has been lavish in his translation of her to the operatic stage. Franz List himself, her creator, would have found delight in the splendid scenic garb with which Mr. Gatti has invested her. The prologue and four tableaux compelled admiration. The dear sainted lady and her husband and her mother-in-law and all her attendants, either as principal singers or as chorus, were exploited worthily both in song and in what little action there was. Mr. Bodansky, who conducted and was responsible for revisions and for excisions in the score (not without precedent, however), did his work well.

The book of the opera—no, "musical legend" is better—is by Otto Roquette, the English translation by Constance Hache, for, mark you, it was sung in English! You might not have noticed that in the opening chorus, but when the principal singers came into action there was no doubt of it. There was a lesson for the scoffers at our beautiful English tongue in the clear enunciation of the text by all. But, to our mutations! The plot is simple. Elizabeth as a child is taken to the Wartburg and betrothed to Ludwig. After they are married he surprises her in the forest returning from one of her charitable missions. He suspects her, and then the miracle is disclosed. On to the Crusades he goes, leaving her in charge of his kingdom. But in the campaign against the Turks he dies, and the cruel mother-in-law seizes his powers and turns Elizabeth out, bereft of her children, to be apotheosized as a Saint. It is not the Elizabeth of "Tannhauser" that is presented. Yet Wagner found his inspiration in the same historical or Apocryphal figure.

Florence Easton established herself firmly among the stars of the company by her lovely and poetic conception of Saint Elizabeth, her singing, rarely chaste and beautiful, as became the character. Clarence Whitehill as Ludwig, for the clarity of his enunciation no less than for the nobility of his singing, was a treat to hear. And Carl Schlegel and Hans Ruyssdael and Robert Leonard kept them good company. Margarete Matzenauer, fine artist that she is, mainly posed. There was nothing else for her to do until nearly the end. Elizabeth and Ludwig, as children, were impersonated by Constance Bitter and Margarete Heller. The scenery and costumes were designed by Joseph Urban.

WOMAN KILLED BY GAS.

Pulmotor Saves Husband After Two Are Found—Stove Tube Detached.

Mrs. Julia Berone, twenty-four years old, was killed by gas at No. 121 Clason Avenue, Brooklyn, to-day, and her husband, Dominick, is in the Cumberland Street Hospital in a dying condition.

They left the gas heater burning last night and in some way the tube became detached from the wall bracket. Berone's father, Francesco, smelled gas when he got up in another room and found the couple unconscious. A pulmotor revived the husband, but the woman was beyond aid.

STEFANSSON COMING BACK.

DAWSON, Y. T., Jan. 4.—Vilhjalmur Stefansson is expected to return here next summer, according to reports reaching here from Fort Yukon, Alaska. The entire Stefansson party was reported in good health.

A Northwest Mounted Police winter patrol left here to-day with mail for Fort Nicholson to conduct with a similar patrol from Herschel Island. The patrol probably will return here in March with full details of the results of Stefansson's expedition.

ENCEKE'S Comet Reappears.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Jan. 4.—The reappearance of Encke's comet was reported to-day in a cablegram to the Harvard College Observatory from Copenhagen. The position was given as follows: Right ascension, 22 hours, 59 minutes, 4.9 seconds; declination, north 1 degree, 17 minutes, 35 seconds. The comet was observed by Prof. Schorr of the Berzsdorf Observatory on the evening of Dec. 20.

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NOW \$12.50

NOW \$18.50

NOW \$22.50

NOW \$26.50

578 Overcoats were \$15.00	568 Overcoats were \$22.50	443 Overcoats were \$27.50	487 Overcoats were \$35.00
609 Overcoats were \$17.50	604 Overcoats were \$25.00	492 Overcoats were \$30.00	435 Overcoats were \$40.00

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